

Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Notice of Hearings

KDHE announces two public hearings on the 2008 Kansas 303d List of Impaired Waters on February 20 and 26, 2008. Section 303d of the Clean Water Act requires States to biennially prepare a list of waters failing to meet State Water Quality Standards. The previously developed 2006 Kansas 303d list will be incorporated into the 2008 list at the request of EPA Region VII. Additionally, such waters are required to have Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) prepared by the State to restore their water quality. A Total Maximum Daily Load is the maximum amount of the impairing pollutant that can enter the water without causing a violation of its water quality standards.

Kansas has developed TMDLs for impaired surface waters in each of the State's 12 river basins. KDHE will be addressing a second round of TMDL development in the Smoky Hill-Saline, Solomon and Upper Republican basins in State Fiscal Year 2009 and the third round of TMDLs in the Kansas-Lower Republican Basin in Fiscal Year 2010. The draft 2008 Kansas 303d list will emphasize waters in those four basins, including an initial designation of TMDLs to be developed over the next two years. The list and its methodology are available for review on the Internet at:
<http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/tmdl/>.

Additionally, the Clean Water Act requires the States to assemble and evaluate "all existing and readily available water quality related data and information" in developing the 303(d) list. Such data include information from local, state and federal agencies, members of the public and academic institutions conducting research. This notice requests any data or information on the water quality condition of waters of the State over the period 2000-2007. Submitted data may include chemical, physical or biological measurements and should be accompanied by information to identify the waterbody with as much geographic specificity as possible. In order to be considered for evaluation, submissions should also ensure quality control and quality assurance of the data provided to KDHE.

The hearings will open with a brief summary of the list and its methodology as it pertains to the waters of the applicable river basin. Public testimony will then be taken after the presentation. Please provide a written copy of any testimony at the hearings. Written testimony and water quality data will be accepted by KDHE anytime prior to the close of business on Friday, March 7, 2008. KDHE will prepare a response to all public comments and revise the draft list as necessary and will submit the list, the methodology, the public comments and the KDHE response to Region VII of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on April 1, 2008.

The public hearings are scheduled as follows:

February 20, 2008 – Hays: Agricultural Research Center, 1232 240th Avenue (Highway 183 Bypass), Hays from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

February 26, 2008 – Topeka: Kansas Water Office Conference Room, 901 S. Kansas,
Topeka from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

If accommodations at the hearing locations are needed by persons with disabilities, notify KDHE at least five business days before the respective hearing in writing or by calling (785) 296-6170. Other inquiries regarding this notice should also be directed to Mr. Thomas Stiles at (785) 296-6170.

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